Filing Date: August 5, 2003

Title: COUPLING SYRINGE SYSTEM AND METHODS FOR OBTAINING A MIXED COMPOSITION

## IN THE CLAIMS

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Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Original) A coupling syringe system comprising:

a first syringe including a first syringe barrel having a first syringe open proximal end and a first syringe distal end, the first syringe further including a first syringe tip with a male end portion wherein the male end portion has a locking ring and a tip, the first syringe barrel having a first syringe inner surface;

a first syringe plunger slidably disposed within the first syringe barrel, the first syringe plunger in fluid-tight engagement with the first syringe inner surface;

a second syringe including a second syringe barrel having a second syringe open proximal end and a second syringe distal end, the second syringe further including a second syringe tip with a female end portion wherein the female end portion comprises one or more exteriorly protruding members adapted to detachably fit the locking ring, the second syringe barrel having a second syringe inner surface;

a second syringe plunger slidably disposed within the second syringe barrel, the second syringe plunger in fluid-tight engagement with the second syringe inner surface;

the female end portion having an opening therein, the opening sized and configured to receive the tip of the male end portion therein;

wherein the locking ring couples the first syringe to the second syringe when the tip of the male end portion is disposed within the female end portion, forming a fluid tight engagement.

- 2. (Original) The coupling syringe system of claim 1 wherein the female end portion comprises one or more exteriorly protruding members adapted to detachably engage the locking ring.
- 3. (Original) The coupling syringe system of claim 1 wherein the locking ring is configured to detachably connect to a discharge assembly.
- **4.** (Original) The coupling syringe system of claim **3** wherein the discharge assembly comprises a needle.

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The coupling syringe system of claim 1 wherein the female end portion of the 5. (Original) second syringe is detachably connected to the male end portion of the first syringe via the locking ring.

- The coupling syringe system of claim 1 wherein the female end portion of the **6.** (Original) second syringe is detached from the male end portion of the first syringe.
- The coupling syringe system as recited in claim 1, further comprising an 7. (Original) outwardly projecting flange near the first syringe proximal end.
- The coupling syringe system as recited in claim 1, further comprising an **8.** (Original) outwardly projecting flange near the second syringe proximal end.
- The coupling syringe system as recited in claim 1, wherein the locking ring is rotatably coupled with the male end portion.
- 10. (Currently Amended) The coupling syringe system as recited in claim -4, wherein the locking ring is threadingly coupled with one or more projections disposed on an outer surface of the female end portion.
- 11. (Original) The coupling syringe system as recited in claim 1, wherein the male end is disposed within the female end.
- 12. (Original) The coupling syringe system as recited in claim 1, wherein the locking ring is rotatably coupled with the male end portion and the locking ring is threadingly coupled with one or more projections disposed on an outer surface of the female end portion.
- 13. (Original) The coupling syringe system as recited in claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second syringes contains therein a composition including a drug delivery system.

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14. (Original) The coupling syringe system as recited in claim 13, wherein the other syringe contains therein a drug.